

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

United States Patent Application

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: IMAGE HEATING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING DEVICE USING THE SAME

The specification of which a. ☐ is attached hereto b. ☑ was filed on February 1, 200 application) described and claimed solicit a United States patent.	2 as application serial no. 10/06 in international no. filed	6,035 and was amended and as amended on	i on (if a (if any), w	pplicable) (in the case of a PCT-file hich I have reviewed and for which l
I hereby state that I have reviewed any amendment referred to above.	and understand the contents of t	he above-identified spe	cification, ir	cluding the claims, as amended by
I hereby claim foreign priority bene certificate listed below and have al- that of the application on the basis	so identified below any foreign :	es Code, § 119/365 of a application for patent or	ny foreign ay inventor's o	pplication(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before
a. no such applications have be b. such applications have been	en filed. filed as follows:			
FORI	EIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, C	LAIMING PRIORITY UNI	DER 35 USC §	119
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING		DATE OF ISSUE
		(day, month, year)	•	(day, month, year)
Japan	10-132984	15 May 1998		
Japan	10-203005	17 July 1998		
ALL FORE	IGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FI	LED BEFORE THE PRIOF	UTY APPLIC	ATION(S)
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER			DATE OF ISSUE
_		(day, month, year)		(day, month, year)
manner provided by the first parag	natter of each of the claims of thi raph of Title 35, United States C al Regulations, § 1.56(a) which o	is application is not disc code. § 112. I acknowle	losed in the dge the duty	international application(s) listed prior United States application in the to disclose material information as the prior application and the national
				
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING	day, month, year)	STATUS	S (patented, pending, abandoned)
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS	6 (patented, pending, abandoned)
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING	day, month, year)	STATUS	6 (patented, pending, abandoned)
U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER				
I hereby claim the benefit under T		P(e) of any United State	s provisiona	

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (reprinted below):

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is canceled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information that is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
 - (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
 - (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim;

or

- (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application:
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.
- (e) In any continuation-in-part application, the duty under this section includes the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to the person to be material to patentability, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

Identification of Error:

I believe that the original patent, upon which the present reissue is based, may be partially inoperative for failing to claim all that the inventors were entitled to claim. The granted claims are in error for not adequately reflecting the aspect of the invention disclosed at column 21, line 50 to column 22, line 25, and column 23, lines 5-45, as now reflected at least in new claim 35 which reads: An image heating device comprising: a heat-generating member comprising a magnetic layer; a magnetization member for magnetizing said heat-generating member with an alternating magnetic field, which is arranged in opposition to said heat-generating member; a nip portion for heating a recording material that carries a toner image with heat from said heat-generating member; while the recording material is being conveyed along said nip portion; wherein the nip portion is formed by a movable film contacting said heat-generating member; and a pressure member for pressing against said film. I confirm that all errors being corrected in this reissue application were made without any deceptive intent.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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I hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/ organization who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which I hereby declare that I have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until I instruct Merchant & Gould P.C. to the contrary.

I understand that the execution of this document, and the grant of a power of attorney, does not in itself establish an attorney-client relationship between the undersigned and the law firm Merchant & Gould P.C., or any of its attorneys.

Please direct all correspondence in this case to Merchant & Gould P.C. at the address indicated below:

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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